

In the Claims

Claims

Claims 1-49 (Canceled).

50. (Previously presented) A method of contacting a line comprising:
providing a substrate;
forming a conductive line over the substrate;
forming at least one individual diffusion region within the substrate proximate the conductive line; and
forming conductive material in electrical contact with a portion of the conductive line and with a portion of the at least one individual diffusion region, the electrical contact with the portion of the at least one individual diffusion region comprising the only electrical contact of the conductive material with a diffusion region.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 further comprising forming an other individual diffusion region within the substrate proximate the conductive line.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein the conductive line portion and the at least one individual diffusion region portion form a contact pad.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein the forming of the conductive line comprises forming the conductive line to have an average lateral width dimension, and wherein the conductive line portion has a lateral width dimension which is substantially equivalent to the average lateral width dimension.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein the forming of the conductive line comprises forming the conductive line to have a generally uniform lateral width dimension along its entirety.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein the forming of the diffusion region defines a pn junction within the substrate, and further comprising reverse biasing the pn junction.

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein the forming of the diffusion region defines a pn junction within the substrate, and further comprising reverse biasing the pn junction after the forming of the conductive material.

57. (Previously presented) A method of contacting a line comprising:
providing a substrate;
forming a conductive line over the substrate, the conductive line comprising
a lateral width dimension defined by opposing sidewalls;
forming a diffusion region within the substrate and directly under an entirety
of the lateral width dimension of the conductive line; and
forming conductive material in electrical contact with the conductive line
and the diffusion region.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 57 wherein the forming
of the diffusion region comprises forming at least a portion of the diffusion region
laterally outward of at least one sidewall of the conductive line.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 57 wherein the forming
of the diffusion region comprises forming portions of the diffusion region laterally
outward of the respective sidewalls of the conductive line.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 57 wherein the forming
of the diffusion region comprises forming portions of the diffusion region laterally
outward of the respective sidewalls of the conductive line, and wherein the
forming of the conductive material comprises forming the conductive material in
electrical contact with at least one of the portions of the diffusion region.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 57 wherein the providing of the substrate comprises providing the substrate to have a first-type dopant, and wherein the forming of the conductive line comprises forming the conductive line to have a second-type dopant which is different from the first-type dopant.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61 wherein the first-type dopant comprises n-type dopant.

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61 wherein the first-type dopant comprises p-type dopant.

64. (Previously presented) The method of claim 57 wherein the forming of the conductive line comprises forming a first conductive layer over a second conductive layer.

65. (Previously presented) The method of claim 64 wherein the first conductive layer comprises material different from material of the second conductive layer.

66. (Previously presented) A method of forming an electrical contact in a semiconductor device comprising:

providing a substrate;

forming a conductive line over the substrate, the line comprising a first portion;

forming a single diffusion region proximate the conductive line within the substrate, the first portion and the single diffusion region forming a contact pad;

forming an insulative material over the substrate and contact pad;

forming a contact opening through the insulative material, the opening exposing at least a portion of the contact pad; and

forming conductive material over and electrically coupled to the exposed portion of the contact pad.

67. (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein the forming of the contact opening comprises forming the opening to overlap with the conductive line and the single diffusion region.

68. (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein the forming of the conductive line comprises forming a first conductive layer over a second conductive layer.

69. (Previously presented) The method of claim 66 wherein the forming of the conductive material comprises forming metal material electrically coupled to the exposed portion of the contact pad.